Exemption of rentals on non-functioning telephones in Calcutta

961. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in Calcutta, telephones in some areas remain out of order for more than eight weeks;

(b) whether in all such cases Government would consider the desirability of not charging the customers of rent since the instruments remain out of order and there is no justification of charging the rent in all such cases;

(c) whether the Telephone Authorities propose to ensure that advertisements are inserted in leading Bengali and English newspapers published from Calcutta about exemption of the rent; and

(d) what are the present rules governing the refund of rentals to subscribers and how much has to be refunded and whether the rule will be amended suitably and refund will be given *suo moto* and not on an application of the subscriber?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir. At certain times and under certain circumstances in some areas some faults continued beyond eight weeks.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) G.M.T. Calcutta had made it known to public through press releases in local newspapers.

(d) Rebate in rental can be granted by the concerned General Managers if the subscribers' telephone services remain interrupted continuously for 30 days or more.

As a special case, instructions have been issued for six months with effect from 1.2.87 for Calcutta only to grant rebate if the subscribers' telephones remain faulty for 15 days or more continuously.

The process of granting rebate on *suo moto* basis is being implemented.

Fate of the students and staff of the unrecognised Medical Colleges

962. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:
SHRI N. E. BALRAM:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Medical Council of India has served an order derecognising some medical colleges in the country and are also considering deaffiliating recently some other medical colleges in the country;

(b) if so, what are the details in regard thereto;

(c) the reasons for which some medical colleges are not to be recognised by the Medical Council of India; and

(d) what shall be the fate of the students and staff of these colleges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) No, Sir. According to the Medical Council of India.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) If the medical colleges do not conform to the standards prescribed by the Medical Council of India in accordance with the Indian Medical Council Act, such medical colleges are not likely to be recognised by the Medical Council of India.

(d) The Medical Council of India and the Central Government will not be able to help such students who arrange to get admissions in